

SECOND CITY
CANINE ♥ RESCUE

Fostering **101**



Rescuing Responsibly SM



3 Introduction: Foster Home Q & A

What is Second City Canine Rescue?	3
Our Program Includes	3
What Do Foster Homes Do?	4
What are the Requirements for Becoming a Foster Home?	5
How Long Do Dogs Spend in Foster Care?	5
How Do Foster Dogs Find Permanent Adoptive Homes?	5

7 Dogs & Puppies (over 8 weeks old)

Supplies Needed	7
Supply Procedures	8
Returning Supplies	9

10 Setting the Dog Up for Success

Decompression	10
House Training	11
A Sound Beginning	11
House-Training Do's and Don'ts	12
Crate Training	12
High Value Treats	13
Chewing	13
Resource Guarding	14
Separation Anxiety	15

17 Health Issues

Cleaning Procedures	21
Routine Veterinary Care	21
Moms & Newborn Puppies	22

23 Emergency Information

What constitutes an emergency?	23
Emergency Contact Information	23
SCCR Contact Information	24

Introduction: Foster Home Q & A

What is Second City Canine Rescue?

Mission: To rescue homeless animals and responsibly place them into permanent, loving homes. We believe in

*Rescuing Responsibly*SM



Organization

In 2011, SCCR was formed by a small group of individuals in an effort to “rescue responsibly.”

Their goal was to save homeless pets in Chicago and surrounding communities and states by responsibly placing them into foster and then forever adopter homes.

SCCR, supported by a board of directors, teams of volunteers, and staff, continues to grow and save more dogs.

Our Program Includes

Foster Program

We have a program that places dogs into foster homes prior to being placed in adoptive homes. Our foster homes allow adequate time for necessary veterinary care, behavior assessments, and socialization to take place for a dog prior to adoption.

Adoption Center

The SCCR Adoption Center is located at 570 N Smith Street in Palatine, IL. This space has been designed to be as much like a home as possible, while also providing a beautiful and inspiring place for our community and volunteers to give back.

This innovative vision for animal sheltering is meant to relieve dogs of the stress they experience while in a traditional shelter by providing a bright, warm, welcoming and safe home-like environment to the dogs in our care.





A spacious living room area with couches and a relaxed environment allows for a comfortable atmosphere for meetings with potential adopters while providing a more realistic picture of the dog's true behavior.

Adoption Events

SCCR provides opportunities for in-person adoptions at scheduled weekly events on Saturdays, as well as virtual adoptions only on an as-needed basis. Most fosters and pups will attend the weekly adoption event to meet & greet potential adopters; however, some dogs will not respond well to the stress of an event or meeting strangers and other pups. The decision to arrange a virtual adoption for a particular pup or situation will be made between the foster and Adoption Program Coordinator, often with input from the foster & adopter support team. Current information about the adoption process will be provided to foster homes via email from the Adoption Program Coordinator.

SCCR volunteers are committed to the mission of "rescuing responsibly" by responding to the needs of our pups, fosters, and potential adopters, whether the process is completed in-person at an adoption event or virtually.



Fundraising Events

These special events fundraise for SCCR to further our mission of "rescuing responsibly." These events happen monthly and annually and raise funds for SCCR in unique, creative, and fun ways.

What Do Foster Homes Do?

Foster homes allow us to rescue homeless animals from a variety of situations by providing these animals with temporary care and shelter until they are adopted. Foster homes are asked to provide foster animals with plenty of love, adequate food (provided by SCCR) and water, shelter from the elements, and exercise.

Administering medication may also be necessary. In addition to providing the basics, our foster homes are asked to transport foster animals to veterinary appointments and adoption events.

Veterinary appointments are scheduled by SCCR's medical team at approved veterinary partners, and are 100% paid for by SCCR.

Please do not arbitrarily take your foster dog to the vet without approval – this will not be reimbursed.

Foster homes play a crucial role in rehabilitating rescued animals. They are in a unique position to help abused or neglected animals learn how to love and trust again. Foster homes can help these





animals become more “adoptable” by providing socialization and basic training. By teaching or re-teaching an animal how to live in a home setting, foster homes help increase the odds for a smooth and successful transition into a permanent adoptive home.

What do foster homes do? Any way you look at it, foster homes save lives!

What are the Requirements for Becoming a Foster Home?

SCCR is always looking for more foster homes. The only general requirements are that you love animals and have the time and patience to provide a foster animal with adequate care. Some special cases will need fenced yards, extra time commitments (as is the case with newborns and moms), isolation from personal pets, etc.

We make every effort to provide as much information as possible about the dogs so that potential fosters can select a good match for their home. However, when dogs come to us from out-of-state shelters, we are not able to assess them in person and thus rely on our shelter partners’ information about particular dogs.



How Long Do Dogs Spend in Foster Care?

The time an animal needs to spend in foster care ranges from two weeks to several months. Although every attempt will be made to have a foster dog become active after 2 weeks of being in foster care, pending health/behavioral concerns, there is never a guaranteed timeframe.

How Do Foster Dogs Find Permanent Adoptive Homes?

SCCR takes full responsibility for finding permanent adoptive homes for foster animals. Foster homes are encouraged to let people know that their foster animals are available for adoption, but any person interested in adopting an animal needs to complete the adoption application procedure.

Dogs go active on our website on Tuesdays. Foster homes will be notified the week the dog is scheduled to go active. At that time, our Bios Team will contact the foster parent to gather information to be used in a brief bio.





SCCR shows our adoptable animals on a weekly basis. Foster homes are asked to bring their foster animals to adoption events and are encouraged to stay as long as possible in order to provide information to potential adopters.

Adoptions are handled on a case-by-case basis, and every effort is made to match animals with homes that meet their specific needs. Adoption decisions are determined on a first-come, first-qualified basis. Foster homes can help immensely in this process by providing information regarding an animal's personality, training, time requirements, and other needs. Any input given by a foster home is appreciated and taken into consideration during the adoption process.



Most fosters and pups will attend the weekly adoption event to meet & greet potential adopters; however, some dogs will not respond well to the stress of an event or meeting strangers and other pups. The decision to arrange a virtual adoption for a particular pup or situation will be made with the foster and Adoption Program Coordinator.



Dogs & Puppies (over 8 weeks old)

Fostering a dog or puppy can be an extremely rewarding experience. By providing a little training and a lot of love, foster homes can drastically affect the “adoptability” of the dogs they foster. The information in this chapter will help you familiarize yourself with some of the most common needs, behavioral issues and health concerns that you might encounter as a foster.



Supplies Needed

Supplies should be requested **AS SOON AS YOU COMMIT TO TAKING A DOG** using **ONLY** this form: SCCRESCUE.ORG/FOSTERSUPPLY

Requests must be submitted by 5:00PM on Thursdays for pick up Friday—Sunday. Supply pick up for out-of-state transports will be Sunday at the designated location (when the dog is picked up).

Basic Supply Checklist:

- 🐾 A collar with an SCCR tag and a leash will be provided at pickup.
- 🐾 Crate
- 🐾 High quality food/treats
- 🐾 Food & water bowls
- 🐾 Poop bags
- 🐾 Blanket and/or bed
- 🐾 Toys
- 🐾 Additional items may be available on the request form.

Your supplies can be picked up at:

- 🐾 Suburban storage (Roselle on specific days/times only)
- 🐾 Hanover Park Animal Care Center (when picking up a dog off transport)
- 🐾 The Adoption Center (Palatine)
- 🐾 Cobb & Co. (Elgin) if pre-arranged



A harness is always an excellent idea and can be requested using the form. Make sure the collar and harness fit properly before leaving the vet. Harnesses should be used for walks/transporting ONLY. DO NOT leave the harness on all of the time.



Supply Procedures

- 🐾 Should you **need** something after your initial request (diapers for a dog in heat, a new leash or harness because your foster chewed it, etc.) email supplies@sccrescue.org and we can likely work something out. Please limit requests to genuine needs.
- 🐾 **If something gets damaged** while you have it, please keep it and email supplies@sccrescue.org to make the supplies team aware of it. It will be determined from there what to do with the damaged item(s).
- 🐾 **Opened food and treats** can't be put back into storage. If you will be fostering again, you may keep food for your next foster. If you will not be fostering again, please email supplies to help get this to another foster who needs it.
- 🐾 **Freedom harnesses** are only available through foster/adopter support (training team). These harnesses are valuable and we keep track of them closely. **DO NOT throw out your freedom harness or leash if it is damaged;** many times, the company will replace them. Please place all damaged pieces into a ziploc bag and return them to the Foster and Adopter Support Team at an adoption show.





Returning Supplies

All provided supplies are the property of SCCR. They should not be kept or given to adopters. The only exception to this is blankets.

All supplies should be returned to SCCR when not in use. Please email supplies@sccrescue.org to arrange for returning your supplies.



Before returning supplies, **MAKE SURE TO CLEAN EVERYTHING!**

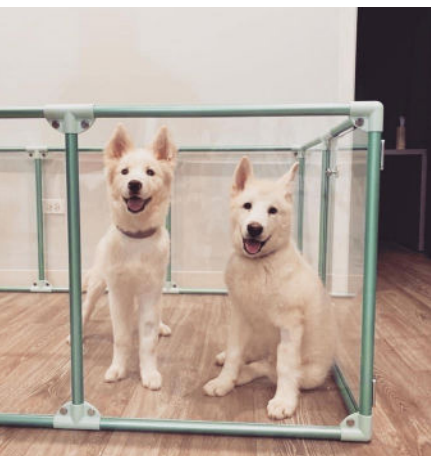
- 🐾 Crates and pens must be cleaned with a bleach/water solution to kill anything that may be lingering. Be sure to rinse thoroughly.
- 🐾 Remove tags from collars and harnesses and hand wash using either original blue Dawn dish soap or laundry detergent. Allow to air dry completely and reattach tags. The same should be done for leashes and seat belts.
- 🐾 Machine or hand wash beds, sweaters, coats, reusable belly bands/diapers, Thundershirts, blankets, towels, etc. and allow to dry completely before returning.
- 🐾 Bowls, treat puzzles, and Kongs should be washed thoroughly and should have no remaining food or debris in them.
- 🐾 Crates, puppy pens, and gates have numbered tags. These tags should not be removed. Please clean and return with the existing tracking tag when no longer needed.
- 🐾 If the tag gets removed for any reason, please email Supplies@sccrescue.org for and request a replacement tag.

Please care for these supplies as if you bought them yourself so they can continue to be used to help many more dogs in the future.



Setting the Dog Up for Success

It is common for a dog to experience some behavioral problems and need a period of adjustment when placed into a new environment. Foster homes are in a unique position to help increase the “adoptability” of their foster dogs by providing some basic training. The following is a list of common behavioral problems as well as suggestions for behavior modification.



Decompression

One of the most important things you can do for your foster dog is to let the dog DECOMPRESS. Regardless of where they came from, their journey has most likely been pretty traumatic. While a new foster is incredibly exciting, in order to set them up for success, it’s critical to take it slow and give them time and space to adjust.

Before you bring your foster home, set up a safe space: create a quiet place where your foster dog can go to relax and feel safe, and where any other dogs (and children) do not have access. This is where you will put the dog’s crate, bedding, food, and water. You can use a separate room or baby gates to create this space.



Please keep your foster dog & resident dogs separated for a few days; this gives them a chance to get used to each other (even though they can’t see each other, they can still hear and smell). Introductions to children should be done slowly.



Leash Safety

Another component of keeping your foster dog safe is making sure they are secure when taking them outside: dogs can be skittish when in a new environment, so it’s important that dogs are double leashed (preferably with an additional leash attached to a harness, martingale collar or slip lead in addition to their flat-buckle collar with tags, which dogs can easily slip out of on their own) anytime they are outside in an open space. This can also be good practice even in a fenced yard for the first few days, as you may have a jumper and not know it. If a dog escapes from their foster home, it’s very easy for them to get lost in a new, unfamiliar neighborhood.

Note: Some dogs are not used to being on a harness, collar, or leash, and they will freeze or panic when leashed. If your foster dog does this, please email training@sccrescue.org for tips on leash desensitization.

Behavioral Problems

If your foster pup experiences any of the behavioral issues listed below, or if you have any questions about training, please contact our Foster and Support Team (training@sccrescue.org) for resources and guidance. It is essential that the Foster & Adopter Support Team lead is aware of any behavioral issues in order to provide support and ensure that SCCR is aware of any issues that might be relevant to an adopter.



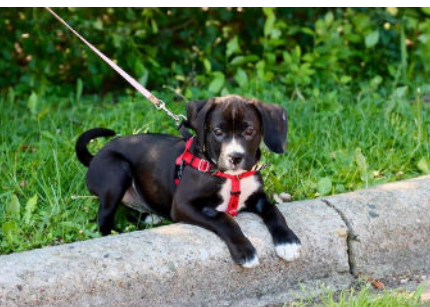
House Training

Chances are your foster dog will need at least a refresher course in house-training. The good news is, it's easy! Some rescued dogs have spent most of their lives outside and never learned the rules of living indoors. Other dogs may have once been house-trained, but may still have an accident or two when transitioning into a new home.

The most important element of effective house-training is extensive supervision. If you happen to catch your dog about to eliminate in the house, immediately take them outside so they can finish their business, and follow up with praise and high value treats while still outside. If you find that your foster dog has had an accident in the house, please do not reprimand the dog, as dogs don't make the association with past actions the way humans do. Focus on supervision, a regular potty schedule, and lots of praise and high value treats for doing their business outside. Addressing a dog for eliminating in the house is only effective if the dog is caught in the act. For this reason, it is essential that the dog be under your supervision at all times. There will, of course, be times when you are unable to watch the dog constantly. During these times, you can confine the dog to a crate. The crate should be just large enough for the dog to be able to comfortably stand up, turn around, and lie down. Because a dog will try not to soil the area where they sleep, they will usually not urinate or defecate in a crate. (See the section on crate training.)



When the dog is allowed out of the crate, they should be taken outside immediately. If the dog eliminates outside, give them lots of high value treats and praise. If the dog does not eliminate, it is important that you supervise the dog closely once you re-enter your home. If you catch the dog having an accident in the house, tell the dog "NO" in a firm (but not angry) voice. Take the dog straight outside and give him a chance to finish eliminating outside. If the dog does eliminate, give him lots of praise with high value treats.



A Sound Beginning

SSCR works very closely with the training professionals at A Sound Beginning (ASB), and every new foster receives a document outlining decompression best practices when bringing a new dog home, especially for the first several weeks. This document is based off of the ASB book, which you can find [HERE](#) if you are interested in reading more about their methods and recommendations. These practices are applicable for both fosters and adopters. Every adopter should also receive a book upon adoption.



House-Training Do's and Don'ts

- ❗ Do keep your dog on a regular schedule, making sure to take them outside after all naps and meals.
- ❗ Do pay attention to the dogs behavioral signals. If you observe the dog circling, sniffing the floor, or moving toward the door, take the dog outside immediately.
- ❗ Do reward the dog IMMEDIATELY after they potty outside so they know exactly what they are being rewarded for. Waiting until you are back in the house to reward them with treats teaches them they are being rewarded for coming in the house, not for potty'ing outside.
- ❗ Do not rub the dog's nose in it! This method of training has been proven ineffective by trainers and behaviorists. The only message a dog gets from this type of "training" is that you are angry. The dog will likely not learn to eliminate outside and may instead learn to fear you.
- ❗ Do not correct the dog after the fact! Punishing a dog for something they did much earlier will not help. Yes, the dog will behave submissively and perhaps look guilty, but the dog only knows you are angry, not that they did something wrong.



House-training is not a process that happens overnight. Be patient. Any progress you can make with your foster dog on house-training will make your life easier and help improve the dog's chances for successful placement. Note: Many dogs will struggle with potty training on a leash, in the rain, or in the snow. If you need additional tips, please email training@sccrescue.org.



Crate Training

A crate is a great way to keep both your foster dog and your home safe. SCCR asks that fosters work on crate training their foster dog, as it helps make the dogs more adoptable. A crate should ALWAYS be a positive experience for your foster dog and never used for punishment. Dogs that feel safe and comfortable in their crate will be more inclined to use it, and will be easier to crate train.



Never use a crate for punishment. When introducing a dog to a crate, use a happy tone of voice and tell the dog to “kennel up.” Once the dog has entered the crate, give them lots of praise and perhaps a treat reward. If you have a difficult time getting the dog to enter the crate or if the dog seems afraid, try leaving the crate door open and placing the dog’s food and water bowls just inside the door. Allow the dog to wander into the crate and eat at their leisure. Once the dog seems more comfortable with the crate, you can try confining the dog to the crate for short intervals.

Never confine a puppy to a crate for longer than four hours at a time, or an adult dog for longer than eight hours at a time. Remember, the dog will not want to soil their crate, so forcing the dog to stay in the crate longer than they can comfortably “hold it” is inappropriate. If your foster will not settle in a crate after 10–15 minutes, is destructive in the crate, or barks or drools excessively, please notify the FAST team.



High Value Treats

When doing any kind of training with your foster pup, it is always best to use what we refer to as “high value treats”—treats that are more valuable to your dog than the undesired behavior you are trying to prevent. Cut up hot dogs, bits of rotisserie chicken, torn up American cheese, or spray cheese are all great examples of high value treats. A dry baked treat often just isn’t appealing enough for a dog to truly make the positive association with desired behavior that we are looking for!

Chewing

Destructive chewing is a phase that all puppies go through. It usually starts around three months and can last until the dog is one year old. During this time, the dog’s adult teeth are coming in, and chewing helps relieve the pain. Adult dogs may also have problems with chewing, but for different reasons. Adult dogs usually chew on inappropriate things because they are anxious or bored, or because they have never been taught what is appropriate to chew on.

What to do:

- 🐾 Provide your dog with something that is acceptable to chew.
- 🐾 Have plenty of chew toys available at all times.
- 🐾 If you catch the dog chewing on something inappropriate, tell the dog “NO” in a firm (but not angry) voice, and replace the item with something more appropriate.





- 🐾 If the destructive chewing occurs when you are away, consider confining the dog to a crate.
- 🐾 It is also important to make sure that your dog is getting plenty of both physical and mental exercise. A tired dog is a good dog – a tired dog will sleep, not chew!

The Foster & Adopter Support Team can provide additional enrichment ideas for your foster if they seem bored or are chewing excessively.

Resource Guarding



Resource guarding is when a dog displays a negative behavior such as growling, nipping or biting when another dog or human comes near, or takes something away from them. Things dogs typically resource guard are food, toys, bones, space, or people. Resource guarding is an undesirable behavior, but it's also completely normal. Dogs are inclined to protect things that are important to them, no different than the way humans lock their homes, cars, or phones.

Never correct or reprimand a dog for growling. Growling is a dog's way of telling us something is bothering them. By the time a dog growls, there have most likely been other warning cues (such as ears flattening, tail tucked, licking lips, hackles up, etc.), so learning to watch a dog's body language can be extremely helpful. If a dog is punished for growling, they essentially aren't feeling heard, and they may escalate the behavior to a bite because you weren't listening to them.



Ways to prevent resource guarding:

- 🐾 Once you give your dog something, consider it theirs until THEY decide they are finished with it. Do not try to take away a bone, toy, etc. away once the dog has it.
- 🐾 If you do need to take something away, (for example, if they are shredding a toy) you can "trade up" by giving them something more valuable. Toss a treat to the other side of the room or lure them to a different room with a treat. Once they are separated from the item, you can safely remove it.
- 🐾 Do not handle your dog while they are eating or put your hand in their food dish. This does not prevent resource guarding, but rather reinforces the fear that it may be taken away.
- 🐾 Always feed dogs separately, including making sure their feeding bowls are spaced apart appropriately, giving each dog at least several feet of space or more if possible.
- 🐾 Bones or treats should be given separately, in the same manner as their meals, providing each dog with enough personal space so that they don't feel threatened.



- 🐾 Only bring toys out when actively playing with them, instead of leaving them laying around on the floor.
- 🐾 Do not allow your foster dog to sleep in bed with you. Having them sleep in their crate is ideal, but at a minimum, have them sleep in their own bed.
- 🐾 If you think your dog is resource guarding, please e-mail training@sccrescue.org for additional assistance.



Separation Anxiety

It is not uncommon for foster dogs to experience some separation anxiety when left alone. This has been amplified by the pandemic and people being home 24/7 with their dogs and never learning how to be alone. The severity of the anxiety can range from pacing and whining to much more destructive behavior. A dog may also experience separation anxiety simply because he has a very dependent personality, or because she is reacting to a history of abuse or abandonment. Whatever the reason, separation anxiety can be difficult to deal with because you are not around when it happens.

For some dogs, a bit of anxiety when you leave the room or house is a normal part of decompression. However, if their behavior persists beyond the first 5-6 days or if their signs of anxiety seem severe, please email training@sccrescue.org so that you can work with a FAST rep to determine whether this is, in fact, separation anxiety.

The most common sign that a dog may be suffering from separation anxiety is destructive behavior when left alone. A dog may scratch frantically at the door or make other attempts to get out of the house, or the dog may chew on things or engage in other destructive behaviors. Excessive drooling or barking are also potential red flags.



Preventing Separation Anxiety

Even if your dog is not displaying any signs of separation anxiety, it is a good practice as a foster to leave them alone for several hours each day. If you work outside the home, this will happen naturally, and if you are working at home, this can be done by leaving the dog in their crate in a room separate from where you are working. This provides valuable information to potential adopters about how long dogs can be left alone, and also helps prevent separation anxiety. If your dog begins to show major signs of distress or a number of the signs listed below, it is best NOT to crate them or leave them alone until we can determine the true



source of their anxiety and develop a training plan. Many dogs with separation anxiety can become more anxious when crated or confined to a room, and this can lead to greater destruction or self-injury while confined.

Confinement Anxiety

Some dogs with suspected separation anxiety may actually only have confinement anxiety; when allowed to be free in all areas or a large portion of the home, they will relax and show more progress when allowed to be free in all or a large portion of the home. You can test this by leaving the house for a minute with the dog left to roam free, and listening at the door or using a pet cam to observe their behavior. SCCR has pet cameras you can borrow for this purpose if needed.



Treating Separation Anxiety

If you find that your dog is escalating to full-blown panic when you leave the house, there are several things you can try to help alleviate separation anxiety:

- ❗ Avoid leaving the dog alone until you can begin working with them on acclimating them slowly to small absences. You can post in the SCCR Volunteers Facebook group for short-term babysitters during the day if you need to leave the house and can't bring the dog with you. If you are unable to be home most of the time due to your work schedule, please contact intake to request a new foster home.
- ❗ We highly suggest borrowing a pet cam from supplies. They can be very useful tools when treating separation anxiety because it allows you to keep the dog below its stress threshold as you gradually increase absences, so that they are not pushed to the point of destruction or self-mutilation.
- ❗ Start out by leaving the dog in your home for very short intervals. Tell the dog to wait and then walk outside for a few minutes before returning. When you return to the house, praise the dog for waiting. Make sure you reward with high value treats.
- ❗ Begin to gradually leave the dog for longer and longer periods of time, staggered with shorter absences. It is important that when you leave, you remain calm and not make a big deal out of leaving. It is also important that you not be too excited when you return. You want to praise the dog, but calmly. You don't want your return to be such an exciting event that the dog anxiously anticipates the moment of your return.



Health Issues

Because most foster dogs are rescued from shelter environments, it's difficult for SCCR to ensure that they will always be healthy. A dog who appears healthy at the time of rescue could easily begin to show signs of illness several days later. For this reason, it is very important that foster homes keep their own dogs up to date on vaccinations and keep the SCCR the Medical Manager aware of any medical issues observed in a fostered dog.

Heartworm

Dogs contract heartworm disease through infected mosquitoes. We test dogs 6 months and older for heartworm at intake.

Early Signs & Symptoms Usually not symptomatic. If more advanced, then the dog may have a persistent cough, tire easily, and inappetence. This is not common

Treatment Veterinary care, including injections, to cure the disease. Dogs can be adopted prior to finishing treatment

Transmission Not contagious

Fleas

Fleas are tiny insects that feed on the blood of dogs, cats, humans and other animals. Although each flea only consumes a small drop of blood, fleas usually attack in large numbers.

Early Signs & Symptoms Intense itching and scratching

Treatment Capstar given; also Simparica and Revolution to treat

Transmission Very contagious to other dogs, cats and people

Kennel Cough

Kennel cough is a respiratory tract infection that has been linked to several different viral and bacterial causes. Coughing is usually stimulated by physical exertion or by touching the throat area. Kennel cough is self-limiting, usually lasting 1-3 weeks. Antibiotics are often given to prevent secondary infections. Kennel cough is very common in shelters and other boarding facilities. There is a vaccine for bordetella, one of the main agents responsible for causing kennel cough.

Early Signs & Symptoms Dry Cough with no nasal or eye discharge

Treatment We monitor and may require veterinary care, including antibiotics. A spoonful of honey and steam can help!

Transmission Very contagious to other dogs

Upper Respiratory Infection

Upper Respiratory Infection is an infection of a dog's windpipe and large airways of the lungs. The infection is normally caused by a virus or bacteria.

Early Signs & Symptoms Cough with nasal and/or eye discharge

Treatment Veterinary care, including antibiotics

Transmission Very contagious to other dogs

Parvovirus

Parvo is a disease that is most common in puppies and young dogs. It causes the sloughing of the lining of the intestinal tract. Parvovirus can survive in the environment for years or longer. This means that other unvaccinated dogs can become infected with parvo simply by coming into contact with places where an infected dog has been. RESCUE disinfectant (provided by SCCR) is the best way to disinfect areas that may have been contaminated. The vaccine for parvovirus is considered very effective.

Early Signs & Symptoms Lethargy, loss of appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea

Treatment Veterinary care (hospitalization), including fluid therapy and antibiotics

Transmission Very contagious to other puppies and unvaccinated adult dogs, especially through contact with infected feces or vomit

Ringworm

Ringworm is a fungus related to athlete's foot; it's not actually a worm. It is a skin condition.

Early Signs & Symptoms Irregularly shaped areas of fur loss; the skin of the areas will usually appear rough and scaly

Treatment Veterinary care and treatment

Transmission Very contagious to other dogs, cats and people, but usually requires direct contact with the infected animal

Round, Tape, Whip and Hookworms. Giardia, Coccidia

Worms affect a dog's digestive system. They are most commonly seen in puppies and young dogs.

Early Signs & Symptoms Large belly, diarrhea and an inability to gain weight

Treatment Deworming medication

Transmission Contagious to other dogs and cats, but only through contact with (and subsequent ingestion of) feces

Ear infections

Most ear infections are infections of the outer ear.

Early Signs & Symptoms Dirty, inflamed, red inside of ears; dog will shake their head and scratch at their ears

Treatment Ear medications

Transmission Not contagious

Ehrlichia

This is a tick borne disease. It is one disease tested for at intake and only indicates exposure to the disease.

Early Signs & Symptoms Most dogs do not have any symptoms. We run blood work to check for anemia

Treatment If indicated by bloodwork, 28 days of doxycycline, then we retest

Transmission Not contagious

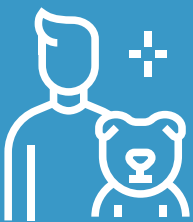
Dental disease

Many dogs aged 7 and older have dental disease.

Early Signs & Symptoms Heavy tartar, diagnosed at intake by a veterinarian

Treatment Dental procedure with tooth extractions as needed if advanced dental disease

Transmission Not contagious



Uncommon Medical Conditions

There are various medical conditions that are uncommon, including canine distemper, orthopedic conditions, eye conditions, urinary tract infections, Leptospirosis, and Lyme disease. The medical manager will coordinate the appropriate care for dogs with all medical concerns.



Cleaning Procedures

It is important that all items and areas used by a sick foster animal be cleaned thoroughly. You can use a 1:32 bleach solution or RESCUE disinfectant (provided by SCCR) to reliably kill most viruses and bacteria. Items to be cleaned should be thoroughly wetted with the bleach solution and allowed to stand for several minutes before rinsing.



Routine Veterinary Care

SCCR provides foster dogs with routine veterinary care prior to placement in permanent adoptive homes. The following outlines what a “typical” foster dog will receive while in the SCCR foster program. (* Please note- special cases may require more vetting)

Intake Exam Schedule

- 🐾 “Distemper combo” vaccine (DHPP or a DHLPP)
- 🐾 Rabies vaccine (dogs 16 weeks and older)
- 🐾 Bordetella vaccine
- 🐾 Spay/neuter
- 🐾 Heartworm/tick borne disease blood test (dogs 6 months and older)
- 🐾 Microchip
- 🐾 Dewormer
- 🐾 Fecal Test (additional medication, if needed after results of test)
- 🐾 Preventatives - for Heartworm / Flea / Tick

Additional treatment as needed for other medical conditions that were noted at intake or that arise after the dog is in the foster home.

To help ensure the health and safety of your foster dog, SCCR asks that you adhere to the guidelines set forth, including the following:

- 🐾 **Tags & Collar:** Always keep an SCCR ID tag attached to a properly fitted collar that will remain on your foster dog at all times.
- 🐾 **Supervise:** Keep your foster dog under your control at all times, always going outside on a leash or into a securely fenced area under constant supervision.
- 🐾 **Avoid Balconies or Rooftops:** Foster dogs should never be allowed onto balconies or rooftops where they might jump or fall.
- 🐾 **Communicate:** If you are no longer able to care for your foster dog. Do not give your foster dog to another person or rescue group. Contact intake@sccrescue.org.
- 🐾 **Leaving Town:** If you need to go out of town, please contact the Babysitting Coordinator (info at the back of this packet) as far in advance as possible so that we can arrange alternative housing for your foster dog.



Moms & Newborn Puppies

Newborns, regardless of whether or not they are with their mother, have very little chance of surviving in a shelter environment. Foster homes that foster mother dogs with newborns provide a safe and healthy place for the puppies to grow and learn until they are old enough to be adopted. Foster homes that take care of orphaned newborns provide everything a mother dog would provide.

Orphaned puppies require 24-hour supervision and round-the-clock care. Fostering newborns of any kind is sure to be a challenging yet extremely rewarding experience.



Emergency Information

What constitutes an emergency?

An emergency is any situation in which a foster animal's life is in danger. The following are specific examples of emergency situations:

Illness:

If your foster animal becomes severely ill, please contact the **SCCR Medical Manager at 847.400.4822**. If the call is not answered, text and include "ER" along with the dog's name in the message. If you have not received a quick reply, contact **Jacquie (call or text 847.917.0006)**. Indications of severe illness include lethargy, severe vomiting and/or diarrhea, or signs that an animal is in pain.

Trauma:

If your foster animal sustains any kind of traumatic injury, please contact the **SCCR Medical Manager at 847.400.4822** ASAP. If the call is not answered, text and include "ER" along with the dog's name in the message. If the injuries are severe, please take the foster animal immediately to the nearest veterinarian.

Loss:

If your foster animal becomes lost, please contact the **Lost Dog Coordinator at 847.807.5539** ASAP. They will help you contact local animal control facilities and start the SCCR "lost dog policy" checklist.



Emergency Contact Information

The following emergency contact information is provided to help you should you encounter an emergency with your foster animal. If the situation is life threatening, and you have not received a response from Martha or Jacquie, call the emergency clinic as you head to the nearest veterinarian.

24-hour Emergency Veterinary Clinics

Emergency Veterinary Services of Saint Charles
530 Dunham Rd
St. Charles, IL 60174
630.584.7447

Elk Grove Veterinary Specialty & Emergency
1050 Bonaventure Drive
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
847.584.0200

Premier Veterinary Group Chicago
3927 W Belmont Ave
Chicago, IL 60618
773.516.5800